

03/40/

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FRP: , , , 5, , 8

STATE

25X1

62 7742008

SCD

PAGE 001

NC 7742008

TOR: 021905Z JAN 82

25X1

OO RUEA116

ZNY CCCCC ZUC STATE ZZH

UTS3809

OO RUEHC

DE RUEHAM #0015/01 0021422

ZNY CCCCC ZZH

O 021404Z JAN 82

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4773

RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE 9009

INFO RUEHDM/AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY 7193

RUEHJM/AMCONSUL JERUSALEM PRIORITY 2742

RUEHJ1/AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY 6902

RUEHIV/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY 3665

BT

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 00015 COMBINED SECTION

EXDIS

CAIRO FOR CODEL PERCY

E.O. 12065: RDS-1, 01/02/2002 (VIETS, RICHARD N.)OR-M
 TAGS: PEPR OREP (PERCY, CHARLES H.) JO US XF
 SUBJECT: MEETING BETWEEN SENATOR PERCY AND KING HUSSEIN

1. (CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT)

2. SUMMARY: SENATOR PERCY MET FOR TWO HOURS WITH
 KING HUSSEIN EVENING OF DECEMBER 30. SENATOR
 REVIEWED HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH THE ISRAELIS,
 COMMENTING THAT U.S. ISRAELI RELATIONS WERE AT
 THEIR LOWEST POINT SINCE 1956, BUT THAT THE
 ISRAELIS APPEAR DETERMINED TO IMPROVE THEM. HE
 REQUESTED KING'S VIEWS ON FUTURE OF THE PEACE
 PROCESS AND POSSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING A FEDERATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CONFIDENTIAL

STATE

82 7742008 SCO

PAGE 002

NC 7742008

TOR: 021905Z JAN 82

OF JORDAN, THE WEST BANK AND GAZA. KING HUSSEIN SAID THAT THE U.S. WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ACHIEVE PEACE AS LONG AS IT REMAINS COMMITTED TO ISRAEL RIGHT OR WRONG. ON A POSSIBLE FEDERATION, HE NOTED THAT KABAT SUMMIT GAVE THE PLO THE RIGHT TO SPEAK FOR WEST BANK ARABS. IN KING'S VIEW, THE FUTURE OF CAMP DAVID HINGES ON THE ISSUE OF SELF-DETERMINATION FOR THE PALESTINIANS. THE REAL ISSUE IS DETERMINING THE MEANING OF "FULL AUTONOMY." HUSSEIN EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THE U.S. UNDERSTANDS THAT AUTONOMY HAD TO INCLUDE LAND, NOT JUST PEOPLE.

3. SENATOR PERCY SAID THAT A NEW INITIATIVE IS NEEDED AND EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT A PLO-DOMINATED STATE IN THE WEST BANK COULD BECOME SOVIET-CONTROLLED, THEREBY THREATENING OTHER MODERATE ARAB STATES. THE KING RESPONDED THAT IT IS UNLIKELY THAT THE WEST BANK WOULD FALL INTO RADICAL HANDS. SENATOR PERCY URGED THE KING, AS A SENIOR ARAB STATESMAN, TO TAKE A LEADING ROLE IN THE SEARCH FOR PEACE.

4. ON U.S.-JORDANIAN RELATIONS, KING HUSSEIN SAID HE HAD RETURNED FROM HIS VISIT WITH A VERY GOOD FEELING, BUT SUBSEQUENT EVENTS INCLUDING THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT ON JERUSALEM, THE U.S. VOTE ON ISRAEL'S MED-DEAD SEA CANAL AT THE U.N., THE MOU WITH ISRAEL AND ISRAEL'S ANNEXATION OF THE GOLAN HEIGHTS CAUSED DIFFICULTY. NEVERTHELESS, THE KING SAID THAT JORDAN'S RELATIONS WITH THE U.S. "ARE MUCH BETTER THAN IN A LONG TIME."

5. ON THE PEACE PROCESS, THE KING SAID HE ACCEPTS BOTH THE SAUDI PLAN AND RESOLUTION 242; BOTH MEAN RECOGNITION OF ISRAEL. DESCRIBING THREE POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS, (1) A FEDERATION, (2) STATUS QUO ANTE, AND (3) A PALESTINIAN STATE, HUSSEIN SAID THE ISSUE IS IN AMERICAN HANDS. SETTLEMENTS MUST STOP, AND THE KING REITERATED THAT THE SITUATION HINGES ENTIRELY ON THE

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

STATE

82 7742008

SCU

PAGE 003

NC 7742008

TUR: 021905Z JAN 82

PALESTINIANS' ABILITY TO EXERCISE THEIR RIGHTS. HE ASKED IF FUTURE TALKS MUST BE IN THE CAMP DAVID CONTEXT. SENATOR PERCY RESPONDED THAT CAMP DAVID IS A "LIVING PROCESS," AND AMBASSADOR EMPHASIZED THAT SECRETARY HAIG IS DETERMINED TO GIVE THE AUTONOMY TALKS "OUR BEST SHOT," EVEN THOUGH THE U.S. IS AWARE OF THE KING'S DOUBTS ABOUT THE OUTCOME. WHEN SENATOR PERCY ASKED IF THE QUESTION OF JERUSALEM COULD BE DEFERRED, THE KING RESPONDED NEGATIVELY. HE VIEWS ISRAEL'S GOLAN LAW AS A DELIBERATE PROVOCATION AND REFERRED TO ISRAEL'S OVERFLIGHT OF IRAQ ON THE VERY MORNING OF HIS MEETING WITH CODEL PERCY.

6. IN DISCUSSING REGIONAL POLITICAL RELATIONS, THE KING SAID THAT IRAN IS A THREAT TO THE GULF, AND IS TRYING TO DIVIDE SUNNI AND SHIITE MUSLIMS. HE AND THE SENATOR AGREED THAT EGYPT MUST IMPROVE ITS RELATIONS WITH THE MODERATE ARABS. HUSSEIN SAID THAT AS ISRAELI AND SYRIAN STRENGTH INCREASE, JORDAN'S ABILITY TO INFLUENCE REGIONAL EVENTS IS DECLINING. THE KING ENDED THE MEETING WITH WARM THANKS TO SENATOR PERCY FOR HIS VISIT TO JORDAN. END SUMMARY.

EXDIS

7. SENATOR PERCY, AMBASSADOR VIETS, ED SANDERS AND GRAEME BANNERMAN (NOTETAKER), MET WITH KING HUSSEIN EARLY EVENING DECEMBER 30 FOR ABOUT TWO HOURS.

8. SENATOR PERCY BEGAN THE DISCUSSION BY OFFERING TO SUMMARIZE HIS TRIP TO ISRAEL. AT THE START OF THE TRIP HE INDICATED THAT THERE WOULD BE NO PRESS CONFERENCES, ONLY A STATEMENT AT THE CONCLUSION OF HIS VISIT. HE HAD ASSURED THE ISRAELIS THAT HE WAS DEVOTED TO ISRAEL'S SECURITY AND WELL-BEING. NEVERTHELESS, THE SENATOR TOLD THEM HE WAS VERY CRITICAL OF ISRAEL'S SETTLEMENT POLICY, THE RAIDS ON BAGHDAD AND BEIRUT AND MORE RECENTLY THE ANNEXATION OF GOLAN. HE FULLY

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

STATE

82 7742008

SCD

PAGE 004

NC 7742008

TUR: 021905Z JAN 82

SUPPORTED THE PRESIDENT'S DECISION TO SUSPEND THE MOU. SECRETARY HAIG HAD DISCUSSED THIS WITH MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE AND NO ONE DISAGREED WITH THE ACTION.

9. DURING HIS VISIT TO ISRAEL, SENATOR PERCY SAID HE HAD MET WITH A WIDE SPECTRUM OF THAT NATION'S LEADERSHIP. DEFENSE MINISTER SHARON HAD WANTED TO ACCOMPANY HIM ON A TOUR OF THE WEST BANK BUT SENATOR PERCY HAD DECLINED BECAUSE HE FELT IT MIGHT BE EXPLOITED. HE DID GO TO NORTHERN ISRAEL AND THERE WAS AN ATTEMPT TO EXPLOIT HIS PRESENCE BY ARRANGING A MEETING WITH MAJOR HADDAD, WHOM THE SENATOR HAD DECLINED TO MEET. THE CEASE-FIRE ESTABLISHED IN JULY WAS HOLDING. NOT A SINGLE ISRAELI HAD BEEN KILLED OR WOUNDED SINCE THEN. HE NOTED THE HELPFUL ROLE THE SAUDIS PLAYED IN ACHIEVING THE CEASE-FIRE, AND ASSURED THE ISRAELIS THAT HE WOULD ASK THE SAUDIS TO CONTINUE WORKING WITH THE PLU TO MAINTAIN THE CEASE-FIRE.

10. U.S.-ISRAELI RELATIONS: THE SENATOR COMMENTED THAT THE ISRAELIS ARE SERIOUSLY HURT BY THE SUSPENSION OF THE MOU. THEY ARE CONCERNED ABOUT U.N. SANCTIONS, LEBANON, AND THE AUTONOMY NEGOTIATIONS. THE SENATOR HAD TOLD THE ISRAELIS THAT BILATERAL RELATIONS WERE AT THEIR LOWEST POINT SINCE 1956. ALL ISRAELIS APPEARED DETERMINED TO TAKE STEPS TO IMPROVE RELATIONS. A MUTUAL AGREEMENT WAS REACHED WHEREBY PUBLIC RECRIMINATION WOULD CEASE.

11. SENATOR PERCY SAID HE STRESSED WITH BOTH THE PRIME MINISTER AND THE DEFENSE MINISTER THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO MORE SURPRISES. PRIME MINISTER BEGIN, HOWEVER, ASSERTED THAT THE GOLAN ANNEXATION SHOULD NOT HAVE BEEN A SURPRISE BECAUSE IT WAS IN THE LIKUD PARTY PLATFORM. SOME BITTERNESS WAS DISPLAYED OVER THE U.S. TAKING PUNITIVE ACTION INSTEAD OF TALKING THE MATTER OUT. THE SENATOR HAD RESPONDED THAT AFTER PREVIOUS DISAGREEMENTS THE TWO NATIONS

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

STATE

62 7742008 SCO

PAGE 005

NC 7742008

TOR: 021905Z JAN 82

HAD DISCUSSED THE PROBLEM BUT THE ISRAELIS NEVER GOT THE MESSAGE. THE PRIME MINISTER AGREED ON NO MORE SURPRISES. HE ALSO AGREED TO MAINTAIN THE CEASE-FIRE IN THE NORTH UNLESS ISRAEL FACED A FULL-SCALE ATTACK.

12. ON AUTONOMY, THE PRIME MINISTER HAD EXPRESSED HIS DESIRE TO ACHIEVE FULL-AUTONOMY EVEN BEFORE APRIL 25. HE THEN HAD REVIEWED THE COSTS AND SACRIFICES ISRAEL HAD MADE FOR PEACE AND THE DIFFICULT POLITICAL SITUATION THE WITHDRAWAL FROM YAMIT WAS CAUSING. PRIME MINISTER BEGIN HAD CONCLUDED THAT DESPITE MAJOR PROBLEMS CREATED ISRAEL WILL HONOR ITS COMMITMENT.

13. ON ABU EAIN, SENATOR PERCY STATED HE HAD RAISED THE ISSUE WITH THE PRIME MINISTER AND TOLD HIM THAT THE EYES OF THE WORLD WOULD BE ON THE ISRAELI JUDICIAL SYSTEM. THE SENATOR ALSO STATED HE IS TO RECEIVE A DAILY REPORT ON THE ABU EAIN TRIAL. WITH REGARD TO EXTRADITION, THE SENATOR OBSERVED THE DECISION WAS JUST AND AN ISRAELI WOULD HAVE BEEN EXTRADITED TO AN ARAB COUNTRY UNDER SIMILAR CIRCUMSTANCES.

14. THE SENATOR THEN ASKED THE KING'S VIEWS ON THE FUTURE OF THE PEACE PROCESS. HOW DO THE NATIONS IN THE REGION BUILD UPON THE CAMP DAVID

EXDIS

FOUNDATION? THE SENATOR REITERATED HIS LONGSTANDING BELIEF THAT "THERE WILL BE NO PEACE UNLESS THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM IS RESOLVED." HE QUERIED THE KING ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING A FEDERATION OF JORDAN AND WEST BANK AND GAZA PROVIDED THAT OTHER ARABS GAVE JORDAN A GREEN LIGHT.

15. KING MUSSEIN OBSERVED THAT SENATOR PERCY HAD BEEN ABLE TO DISCUSS WITH THE ISRAELIS SUBJECTS WHICH THE JORDANIANS HAD WANTED TO DISCUSS FOR YEARS. THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM IS THE MOST IMPORTANT CAUSE

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

STATE

82 7742008

SCO

PAGE 006

NC 7742008

TOR: 021905Z JAN 82

FOR INSTABILITY IN THE REGION. IF IT WERE SOLVED, THE KING ASSERTED, CLOSER STRATEGIC COOPERATION BETWEEN THE ARABS AND THE U.S. WOULD BE POSSIBLE.

16. THE REGION IS AT A CROSSROADS. KING HUSSEIN BELIEVES THE ISRAELIS APPEAR TO IMPLEMENT WELL-PLANNED PROVOCATIONS IN ORDER TO MAKE IT DIFFICULT FOR THE UNITED STATES TO MAINTAIN CLOSE TIES WITH ITS ARAB FRIENDS. THE U.S. WILL NOT BE ABLE TO HELP BRING ABOUT A JUST PEACE AS LONG AS IT IS COMMITTED TO ISRAEL RIGHT OR WRONG. THE KING THEN OBSERVED THAT THE ISRAELIS DID NOT ALWAYS ACT IN THE INTEREST OF THE U.S. ONE EXAMPLE WAS SUPPLYING OF ARMS TO IRAN WHILE THE HOSTAGES WERE BEING HELD.

17. TURNING TO SENATOR PERCY'S SUGGESTION ABOUT FEDERATION AS A POSSIBLE SOLUTION TO THE PALESTINIAN QUESTION, THE KING OBSERVED THAT THE JORDANIANS HAD BEEN COMMITTED SINCE 1967 TO THE VIEW OF "TOTAL WITHDRAWAL FOR TOTAL PEACE." THE ISRAELIS HAD REJECTED JORDANIAN OVERTURES. IN FACT UNTIL 1974 THE JORDANIANS HAD BEEN IN CONSTANT CONTACT WITH THE ISRAELIS ON THIS ISSUE.

18. AT KABAT IN 1974, THE ARABS DECIDED UNANIMOUSLY TO GIVE THE PLO, NOT JORDAN, THE RIGHT TO SPEAK FOR THE WEST BANK ARABS. THE JORDANIANS RELUCTANTLY CONCURRED IN THE DECISION. NEVERTHELESS, THE TIES BETWEEN THE JORDANIANS AND THE PALESTINIANS CANNOT BE SEVERED.

19. THE KING SAID CAMP DAVID WAS AN EXERCISE IN SOLVING ONE ASPECT OF THE PALESTINIAN QUESTION. ITS WHOLE FUTURE HINGES ON THE ISSUE OF SELF-DETERMINATION. PRIOR TO CAMP DAVID, HE OBSERVED THAT RABIN HAD SAID ISRAEL COULD TAKE EGYPT OUT OF THE CONFLICT BY OFFERING TO RETURN THE SINAI. KING HUSSEIN NOTED THAT AT THAT TIME HE HAD STATED THIS WAS IMPOSSIBLE, THIS WILL NEVER HAPPEN.

20. KING HUSSEIN THEN CONFESSED THAT HE DOES NOT

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

STATE

82 7742008

SCO

PAGE 007

NC 7742008

TOR: 021905Z JAN 82

KNOW WHAT WILL HAPPEN NEXT. HE HOPES THE SINAI WITHDRAWAL WILL BE COMPLETED ON SCHEDULE, AND WAS VERY HAPPY TO HEAR SENATOR PERCY'S ASSESSMENT. THE REAL ISSUE IS DETERMINING THE MEANING OF "FULL AUTONOMY" AND HE HOPED THERE WAS NO MISUNDERSTANDING THAT IT HAD TO MEAN AUTONOMY INCLUDING LAND NOT JUST PEOPLE. PRESIDENT SADAT HAD TOLD HIM THAT EGYPT AND ISRAEL WERE IN CONFLICT OVER EVERY SINGLE ISSUE. HE THEN MUSED, "ARE THE ISRAELIS GOING TO SPRING A PLEASANT SURPRISE FOR A CHANGE? THAT WOULD BE WELCOME."

21. SENATOR PERCY THEN COMMENTED THAT WE NOW NEED A BOLD NEW INITIATIVE. SHIMON PERES BELIEVES IN "GAZA FIRST". THE SENATOR THEN EXPRESSED HIS CONCERN THAT IF A PLO STATE WERE CREATED ON THE WEST BANK, IT COULD BECOME A SOVIET-CONTROLLED STATE AND THREATEN MODERATE ARAB STATES IN THE REGION. KING HUSSEIN SAID HE IS NOT CONCERNED BECAUSE IT IS NOT LIKELY THAT THE WEST BANK WOULD FALL INTO RADICAL HANDS. THE OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF INHABITANTS ARE MODERATE BUT THEY HAVE TO BE SILENT WHEN THERE IS NO HOPE.

22. SENATOR PERCY THEN PRESSED THE KING ONE MORE TIME ON THE NEED FOR HIM TO TAKE A LEAD IN THE SEARCH FOR PEACE BECAUSE OF THE STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE OF JORDAN AND THE KEY ROLE THE KING HAS TO PLAY AS A SENIOR ARAB STATESMAN. SENATOR PERCY ALSO COMMENTED ON CONTINUING EGYPTIAN SUPPORT FOR A COMPREHENSIVE SETTLEMENT. THE SENATOR QUOTED PRESIDENT SADAT AS TELLING HIM "THE WHOLE PROCESS OF PEACE WILL BE A FAILURE IF THE SINAI ALONE IS RETURNED." PRESIDENT MUBARAK HAS REAFFIRMED THIS COMMITMENT TO RESOLVING THE PALESTINIAN ISSUE IN A WAY WHICH OTHER ARABS EXDIS

COULD ACCEPT.

23. U.S.-JORDANIAN RELATIONS: THE CONVERSATION THEN TURNED TO U.S.-JORDANIAN RELATIONS. THE KING OBSERVED THAT HE HAD RETURNED FROM THE U.S. WITH A

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

STATE

62 7742008

SCO

PAGE 008

NC 7742008

TOR: 021905Z JAN 82

VERY GOOD FEELING. HE BELIEVED THAT PEOPLE IN WASHINGTON WERE AWARE OF THE ARAB-ISRAELI PROBLEM AND THEY WERE INTERESTED AND GETTING A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROBLEMS. THE PRESIDENT HAD TOLD THE KING THAT THERE WERE A LOT OF FACTS HE HAD NOT BEEN AWARE OF AND THE KING VERY MUCH APPRECIATED HIS CANDOR. UNFORTUNATELY, SUBSEQUENT EVENTS HAVE CAUSED DIFFICULTY:

-- THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT ON JERUSALEM, ALTHOUGH LATER CLARIFIED, WAS UNFORTUNATE;

-- THE U.S. VOTE ON MED-DEAD SEA CANAL IN THE U.N. INDICATED AMERICAN ACCEPTANCE OF ISRAELI DISREGARD OF JORDANIAN RIPARIAN RIGHTS AND ISOLATED THE U.S. WITH ISRAEL. HE FELT SUCH ACTION INDICATED THAT ISRAEL WAS NOT SERIOUS ABOUT A PEACEFUL SOLUTION, SO THE U.S. VOTE CONFUSED HIM.

-- THE ISRAELI ANNEXATION OF GOLAN.

-- THE MOU WITH ISRAEL. THE JORDANIANS HAD BEEN TOLD THIS AGREEMENT WAS NOT SIGNIFICANT WHEN THEY WERE IN WASHINGTON. BUT IT TURNED OUT TO BE QUITE SIGNIFICANT WHEN SIGNED.

24. IN COMMENTING ON THESE EVENTS, THE KING ELLIPTICALLY OBSERVED THAT THERE ARE PEOPLE IN WASHINGTON WHO SOMETIMES APPEAR TO BE MORE INTENT ON PRESENTING THE ISRAELI VIEW RATHER THAN THE AMERICAN VIEW (SIC).

25. ALL OF THESE ACTIONS CAUSED PROBLEMS AS HE WENT TO FEZ. HE EMPHASIZED IT WAS FORTUNATE THAT KING HASSAN SUSPENDED THE SESSION WHEN HE DID. THE KUWAITIS HAD WANTED THE CONFERENCE TO APPROVE A STATEMENT ASKING EGYPT TO RENOUNCE CAMP DAVID. ARAB LEADERSHIP, THE KING OBSERVED, IS NOT UNDIVIDED BUT A COLLECTIVE.

26. BOTH THE SENATOR AND THE KING AGREED THAT EGYPT MUST IMPROVE ITS RELATIONS WITH THE MODERATE ARABS. HUSSEIN NOTED THAT HE HAD BEEN IN CONTACT WITH MUBARAK "SINCE THE BEGINNING."

27. PEACE PROCESS: THE KING STRESSED THAT APRIL IS A CRUCIAL TIME FOR THE PEACE PROCESS, WHEN A

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

STATE

82 7742008

SCO

PAGE 009

NC 7742008

TOR: 021905Z JAN 82

U.S. POLICY WILL EMERGE. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION FROM SENATOR PERCY, THE KING SAID THAT HE ACCEPTS THE SAUDI PLAN AS WELL AS 242 BOTH OF WHICH MEAN THE RECOGNITION OF ISRAEL. ALL THE ARABS AGREED IN BAGHDAD IN 1978 TO NEGOTIATE A SETTLEMENT. THE KEY ISSUE IS SELF-DETERMINATION FOR THE PALESTINIANS. THE FUTURE, HOWEVER, IS NOT SOLELY IN ARAB HANDS.

29. THE KING SAID THERE ARE THREE POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS TO THE PALESTINIAN ISSUE: (1) FEDERATION; (2) STATUS QUO ANTE; AND (3) A PALESTINIAN STATE. THE ISSUE, HOWEVER, IS IN AMERICAN HANDS. THE ISRAELIS ARE CHANGING FACTS. SETTLEMENTS MUST BE STOPPED BECAUSE THEY ARE OBSTACLES TO PEACE. THE KING FAVORED A GENEVA FORUM AND HE DID NOT REPEAT NOT OPPOSE SOVIET PARTICIPATION. KING HUSSEIN REITERATED, HOWEVER, THAT THE SITUATION HINGES ENTIRELY ON THE PALESTINIANS' ABILITY TO EXERCISE THEIR OWN RIGHTS.

29. IN RESPONSE TO A COMMENT BY SENATOR PERCY, THE KING INQUIRED WHETHER FUTURE TALKS HAD TO BE IN THE CONTEXT OF CAMP DAVID, AS SUCH. THE SENATOR RESPONDED THAT CAMP DAVID WAS DESIGNED TO BE BROADLY-BASED AND TO COVER ALL POINTS OF CONCERN. IT WAS A "LIVING PROCESS." THE AMBASSADOR EMPHASIZED THAT SECRETARY HAIG IS DETERMINED TO GIVE THE AUTONOMY TALKS "OUR BEST SHOT," EVEN THOUGH THE U.S. IS AWARE OF THE KING'S DOUBTS THAT ISRAEL WILL ACCEPT A REASONABLE FINAL POSITION IN AN AUTONOMY AGREEMENT.

30. SENATOR PERCY ASKED WHETHER THE ISSUE OF JERUSALEM SHOULD BE DEFERRED. THE KING RESPONDED NEGATIVELY. THE CHANGES ON THE GROUND WERE SO EXDIS

GREAT THAT IT WAS HARD TO DISCUSS SEPARATELY; BUT THE PRINCIPAL PROBLEM REMAINS: ADDITIONAL SETTLEMENT ACTIVITY MUST BE STOPPED.

31. THE KING THEN MENTIONED THE OVERFLIGHT THAT MORNING OF ISRAELI AIRCRAFT INTO IRAQ (SEE 81

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

STATE

62 7742008

SCD

PAGE 010

NC 7742008

TOR: 021905Z JAN 82

AMMAN 9497). HE ALSO DISCUSSED THE STEPS BEING TAKEN TO MAINTAIN GOOD RELATIONS BETWEEN EGYPT AND IRAQ (SEE 61 AMMAN 9498).

32. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION, THE KING REITERATED THAT THE GULAN LAW PRESENTS A SERIOUS PROBLEM. HE VIEWS IT AS A DELIBERATE PROVOCATION. THE SENATOR THEN ASKED HOW THE KING CHARACTERIZED THE CURRENT STATE OF U.S.-JORDANIAN RELATIONS. HUSSEIN RESPONDED THAT HE THOUGHT BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH THE U.S. WERE "MUCH BETTER THAN IN A LONG TIME."

33. KING HUSSEIN NOTED THAT IRAN IS NOT ONLY A DIRECT THREAT TO THE GULF, BUT ALSO A SINISTER FORCE TRYING TO DIVIDE SUNNI FROM SHIITE MUSLIMS. HE EXPRESSED FEAR FOR THE FUTURE IF PATRIOTIC ELEMENTS DO NOT ARISE TO SAVE IRAN; OTHERWISE A LEFTIST TAKEOVER IS LIKELY.

34. THE KING NOTED THAT ISRAELI AND SYRIAN STRENGTH IN THE REGION IS GROWING. JORDAN IS ON ITS OWN; THEREFORE, JORDAN'S ABILITY TO INFLUENCE REGIONAL EVENTS IS DECLINING.

35. THE MEETING ENDED WITH THE KING OFFERING WARM THANKS TO SENATOR PERCY FOR HIS VISIT TO JORDAN, HIS DEBRIEFING ON HIS STOP IN ISRAEL, AND GREETINGS TO HIS FAMILY. VIETS

END OF MESSAGE

CONFIDENTIAL